

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1 (Currently amended). A liquid nutritional composition for liver disease patients comprising: ~~a milk protein hydrolysate in an amount of 0.9 to 3 g per 100 mL of the composition and protein derived from fermented milk in an amount of 2.5 to 4.5 g per 100 mL of the composition as proteins; a high oleic acid-containing oil and milk lecithin and/or soybean lecithin as lipids; and palatinose in an amount of 4 to 15 g per 100 mL of the composition as a carbohydrate~~

a) protein, wherein the protein comprises a whey protein isolate (WPI) hydrolysate in an amount of 0.9 to 3 g per 100 mL of the composition and protein derived from fermented milk in an amount of 2.5 to 4.5 g per 100 mL of the composition;

b) lipids, wherein the lipids comprise an oleic acid-containing oil and lecithin, wherein the lecithin is milk lecithin or soybean lecithin, or both; and

c) carbohydrate, wherein the carbohydrate comprises palatinose in an amount of 4 to 15 g per 100 mL of the composition.

2 (Cancelled).

3 (Currently amended). The nutritional composition according to claim 1, wherein said fermented milk-derived protein is from a composition ~~in which the~~ wherein whey in the fermented milk has been reduced.

4 (Original). The nutritional composition according to claim 1, wherein said fermented milk-derived protein is from fresh cheese.

5 (Original). The nutritional composition according to claim 4, wherein said fresh cheese is quark.

6 (Currently amended). The nutritional composition according to claim 1, wherein said ~~milk protein hydrolysate~~ may be obtained by ~~hydrolyzing a whey protein isolate (WPI) hydrolysate~~ is obtained by hydrolyzing a whey protein isolate with an endoprotease from *Bacillus licheniformis*, and trypsin from a porcine pancreas.

7 (Currently amended). The nutritional composition according to claim 6, wherein the ~~milk protein~~ whey protein isolate (WPI) hydrolysate is a permeate obtained by further treatment with an ultrafiltration membrane having a fractionation molecular weight of 10,000 Da.

8 (Currently amended). The nutritional composition according to claim 7, wherein ~~[[the]] a chromatogram from reverse phase HPLC separation of the milk protein~~ whey protein isolate (WPI) hydrolysate is shown in Fig. 1 ~~Figure 1.~~

9 (Currently amended). A liquid nutritional composition for patients under high levels of invasive stress, wherein said nutritional composition comprises: ~~a milk protein hydrolysate in an amount of 0.9 to 3 g per 100 mL of the composition and a protein derived from fermented milk in an amount of 2.5 to 4.5 g per 100 mL of the composition as proteins; a high oleic acid-containing oil and milk lecithin and/or soybean lecithin as lipids; and palatinose in an amount of 4 to 15 g per 100 mL of the composition as a carbohydrate~~

a) protein, wherein the protein comprises a whey protein isolate (WPI) hydrolysate in an amount of 0.9 to 3 g per 100 mL of the composition and protein derived from fermented milk in an amount of 2.5 to 4.5 g per 100 mL of the composition;

b) lipids, wherein the lipids comprise an oleic acid-containing oil and lecithin, wherein the lecithin is milk lecithin or soybean lecithin, or both; and

c) carbohydrate, wherein the carbohydrate comprises palatinose in an amount of 4 to 15 g per 100 mL of the composition.

10 (Cancelled).

11 (Currently amended). The nutritional composition according to claim 9, wherein said fermented milk-derived protein is from a composition ~~in which the~~ wherein whey in the fermented milk has been reduced.

12 (Original). The nutritional composition according to claim 9, wherein said fermented milk-derived protein is from fresh cheese.

13 (Original). The nutritional composition according to claim 12, wherein said fresh cheese is quark.

14 (Currently amended). The nutritional composition according to claim 9, wherein said ~~milk protein~~ whey protein isolate (WPI) hydrolysate ~~may be~~ is obtained by hydrolyzing a whey protein isolate ~~[(WPI)]~~ with an endoprotease ~~derived~~ from *Bacillus licheniformis*, and trypsin from a porcine pancreas.

15 (Currently amended). The nutritional composition according to claim 14, wherein the ~~milk protein~~ whey protein isolate (WPI) hydrolysate is a permeate obtained by further treatment with an ultrafiltration membrane having a fractionation molecular weight of 10,000 Da.

16 (Currently amended). The nutritional composition according to claim 15, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ a chromatogram from reverse phase HPLC separation of the ~~milk protein~~ whey protein isolate (WPI) hydrolysate is shown in ~~Fig. 1~~ Figure 1.

17 (Currently amended). A method for providing nutrition to a patient having liver disease and/or a high level of invasive stress, wherein said method comprises administering, to such a patient, a nutritional composition ~~that comprises:~~

~~a milk protein hydrolysate in an amount of 0.9 to 3 g per 100 mL of the composition and a protein derived from fermented milk in an amount of 2.5 to 4.5 g per 100 mL of the composition as~~

proteins; a high oleic acid containing oil and milk lecithin and/or soybean lecithin as lipids; and palatinose in an amount of 4 to 15 g per 100 mL of the composition as a carbohydrate according to claim 1 or claim 9.

18 (Cancelled).

19 (Currently amended). The method according to claim 17, wherein said fermented milk-derived protein is from a composition ~~in which the~~ wherein whey in the fermented milk has been reduced.

20 (Previously presented). The method according to claim 17, wherein said fermented milk-derived protein is from fresh cheese.

21 (Previously presented). The method according to claim 20, wherein said fresh cheese is quark.

22 (Currently amended). The method according to claim 17, wherein said ~~milk protein~~ whey protein isolate (WPI) hydrolysate ~~may be~~ is obtained by hydrolyzing a whey protein isolate (WPI) with an endoprotease from *Bacillus licheniformis*, and trypsin from a porcine pancreas.

23 (Currently amended). The method according to claim 22, wherein the ~~milk protein~~ whey protein isolate (WPI) hydrolysate is a permeate obtained by further treatment with an ultrafiltration membrane having a fractionation molecular weight of 10,000 Da.

24 (Currently amended). The method according to claim 23, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ a chromatogram from reverse phase HPLC separation of the ~~milk protein~~ whey protein isolate (WPI) hydrolysate is shown in ~~Fig. 4~~ Figure 1.

25 - 31 (Cancelled).

32 (Previously presented). The method of claim 17, wherein the patient has liver cirrhosis.

33 (Previously presented). The method of claim 17, wherein the patient has hepatic failure.